

City of Dahlonega Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

Amendment 1

I. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Applicant means the individual applying for a permit, who is legally authorized to bind the Producer.

Application means the document created by the North Georgia Film Office that must be completed and submitted to the NGFO by a producer or the producer's authorized representative, in order to request a permit.

NGFO means the North Georgia Film Office.

Change request means the document created by the NGFO that must be completed and submitted to the NGFO by a producer or the producer's authorized representative in order to request a material change to a permit.

City means the City of Dahlonega.

Code means the Dahlonega, Georgia Code of Ordinances.

Department of purview means the city department that decides or recommends to the NGFO whether to allow an aspect of filming that is within the department's operational responsibilities.

Director means the Director of the North Georgia Film Office, who shall be appointed by the City Manager.

Element means an activity that is listed in Code below.

Entertainment industry work means the production of motion pictures, television series, commercials, music videos, interactive games and animation, where the final product is intended to be commercially released and/or commercially distributed.

Filming means creating motion picture images on public property, including the on-site/on-location pre-production activities associated therewith, where the final product is intended to be commercially released and/or commercially distributed. Filming does not include activities performed as part of: 1) documenting current affairs; or 2) producing newscasts. In addition, Filming does not include location scouting.

City of Dahlonega Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

Permit means a permit validly issued by the NGFO director that authorizes Filming and the Elements contained therein, if any.

Producer means an individual, organization, corporation or any other entity that is ultimately responsible for the filming that is the subject of the application and the permit (where applicable).

Public property means real property owned by the city or for which the city is a lessee, including, without limitation, parks, streets, sidewalks, other rights of way, and buildings. Public property shall not include real property which is being leased by the city to a lessee.

Traffic control plan means a drawing that is submitted with a request for a sidewalk, lane and or street closure that details the location of the closures, the alternative routes that will be utilized for the detoured vehicular and/or pedestrian traffic, and the mechanisms (including without limitation barricades and signage and the locations thereof) for implementing the closures and alternatives.

II. Purpose and intent.

The intent of the city in adopting this entertainment filming ordinance is to facilitate entertainment industry work performed in Dahlonega while safeguarding the interests of Dahlonega's residents and businesses. The article creates the City of Dahlonega's North Georgia Film Office which will be dedicated to responding to the needs and issues pertaining to entertainment industry work. The article simplifies the permitting requirements associated with filming by enabling entertainment industry professionals to obtain required city approvals through the NGFO rather than through numerous individual departments. It strengthens the city's ability to anticipate and provide adequate services for the multiple filming projects throughout Dahlonega. It also enhances the city's ability to accommodate unanticipated circumstances and requested changes. The NGFO similarly will respond to the needs of Dahlonega's neighborhoods regarding entertainment industry work and will promote community awareness of the entertainment industry's impact upon Dahlonega's economic development. This article furthers the city's commitment to being a best-in-class location to work and to live

III. Office of entertainment as resource and liaison.

The North Georgia Film Office will serve as a resource for Dahlonega's residents and businesses, providing information upon request about current or scheduled filming, helping to resolve problems that arise from entertainment industry work, and acting as a liaison between residents, businesses and the entertainment industry to address inconvenience experienced generally and with regard to a specific project. The NGFO will also serve as an ambassador to the entertainment industry, providing information, answering questions, helping to resolve challenges and facilitating the industry's work in the city and nearby jurisdictions. The NGFO will offer a "hot-line" to receive and respond to complaints and concerns after normal business

City of Dahlonega Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

hours; the hot-line will be available to Dahlonega's residents and businesses and to the industry. The office will implement other mechanisms that enhance the experience of all people performing and effected by entertainment industry work, which may include an informational web-page and on-line permitting. While permits are required for entertainment industry work that occurs on public property only, the North Georgia Film Office will be a resource and liaison for all entertainment industry work, including work that occurs on private property.

IV. Permits for filming.

- (1) Any producer that wishes to perform filming must first obtain a filming permit. No filming permit is required unless the entertainment industry work is performed on public property.
- (2) Filming permits shall be issued by the NGFO director. Permits shall be issued to the producer.
- (3) A permit will specify the filming that may occur at a particular location at a particular time. The permit will authorize element(s) to be performed as part of the filming provided that the elements have been approved by the department of purview. After receiving a permit, a producer may request modifications to the permit as described in subsection VIII (1) below.
- (4) Where the filming application includes a request to close a city street, lane and/or sidewalk, the request shall be evaluated under and the closure must comply with Section XII and with all other sections and subsections of the City of Dahlonega Code that are applicable to the filming at issue.
- (5) A producer that receives a permit is responsible for knowing and complying with all other laws, including other ordinances and regulations, that establish prerequisites, authorizations and other required permissions applicable to the filming.
- (6) Where permitted filming includes advertising signs or other displays of commercial speech, the signs and/or displays must be removed upon the expiration of the permit.
- (7) Notwithstanding any other part of this Code, any producer that performs filming without receiving a permit, violates the material terms of a permit, or is otherwise in violation of this entertainment filming ordinance shall be subject to the provisions of Section XI of the Code.
- (8) While it is the intent of the city to honor each permit, the issuance of such permit shall not grant the producer a constitutionally protected property interest.

V. Exemption from filming permit requirement.

The following types of filming are exempt from the permitting requirement of subsection IV (1) above. This provision does not exempt a producer from complying with other applicable Code provisions, laws, ordinances or regulations that require elements or other activities included in the filming to be permitted or approved by the appropriate governmental entity.

City of Dahlonega Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

- (1) Filming associated with any permitted or unpermitted rally, protest or demonstration, except when the same is staged for the sole purpose of being included in the filming's final product.
- (2) Filming associated with an outdoor event that is authorized by a city-issued outdoor event permit, except when the same is staged for the sole purpose of being included in the filming's final product.

VI. Filming elements.

An applicant shall indicate on the application each of the elements listed below that will be included in the filming. The final decision of whether to allow the element shall be made by the department of purview after consultation with the NGFO, and communicated to the applicant by the NGFO. Prior to denying permission to perform an element, representatives of the department of purview and NGFO shall consult with the producer in an attempt to find alternative ways to accommodate the producer's filming needs. This section applies to the activities listed below only when they occur on public property. Where the element requires approval from an additional governmental jurisdiction, the producer must obtain that approval as well.

(1) The elements are as follows:

- a. Night-time filming with the use of outdoor lighting where a residence exists within 150 feet from the location of an outdoor light;
- b. Filming in buildings that are owned by the city and not leased to a third party, or in buildings of which the city is a lessee;
- c. Use of public property, including on street and surface parking, that is owned or maintained by the City;
- d. Use of a temporary structure that requires permitting by the City's Building Department and/or the Lumpkin County Fire Department;
- e. Use of intellectual property belonging to the city;
- f. Closure of a street, lane and/or sidewalk;
- g. Use of pyrotechnics or other explosives;
- h. Smoke effects, water effects, or flame effects;
- i. Display of real or artificial fire arms, grenades, or other weapons that would cause the public to fear violence;
- j. Vehicle chases and/or vehicle crashes;
- k. Dangerous stunts that have a reasonable likelihood of causing substantial personal injury;
- l. Use of large or any other equipment that has a reasonable likelihood of causing damage to public property;
- m. Filming in a city park; and
- n. Use of wild animals controlled under federal, state, or county law and/or ordinances.

VII. Processing of permit applications.

City of Dahlonega Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

A producer that wishes to perform filming must submit to the NGFO a completed application and the application fees set forth in Section XI below. Where the producer is an organization, corporation or other entity, the application must be signed and submitted by an individual authorized to bind the producer. The NGFO will process the applications and the director will make permit determinations in accordance with this section.

- (1) The application shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - a. The filming project name;
 - b. The name and contact information of the applicant, including postal address, email address, and telephone number;
 - c. Photocopy of a valid photo identification of the applicant;
 - d. The name and contact information of the producer (if the applicant is not the producer);
 - e. The dates, times and locations of the filming for which a permit is being requested, and a general description of the filming activity that will occur at each location;
 - f. A description of any elements that may be performed during the filming, including the dates, times and locations of each;
 - g. A description of any aspects of the filming, other than the elements, that may require city services;
 - h. A description of any assistance the producer may need from the NGFO, and/or concerns that the producer wants the NGFO to be aware of;
 - i. Where the producer is a student, an official letter or document from her/his school confirming that s/he is currently enrolled there. In addition, the student must appear in person at the NGFO and present her/his current student identification card and a valid driver's license. Where the student does not have a driver's license, s/he may present a different form of identification that includes her/his photo; and
 - j. A Certificate of Insurance naming the City of Dahlonega, Georgia as Additional Insured and demonstrating proof of coverage of no less than \$1,000,000 Property and General Liability insurance in force. Certain elements or activities may require greater coverage to be determined by the City.
- (2) When more than one application is received for filming at substantially the same place and time, and the director reasonably determines that the filming cannot logistically and/or safely occur together, the earlier or earliest of the applications that is received by the NGFO in a substantially completed form, which includes submission of the requisite application fee, shall be given priority as to the time and place requested. The NGFO shall make reasonable efforts to consult with the other applicant(s) in an attempt to find alternative times and/or locations that are acceptable.
- (3) There is no deadline by which a filming permit application must be submitted to the NGFO; however, where a filming permit application includes a request for limiting public access to public parking or a street closure, this portion of the application will not be approved unless it is received at least five business days prior to the closure.

City of Dahlonaga Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

- (4) The NGFO and the departments of purview shall compile and maintain rules and guidelines applicable to the use of public property for filming, including the elements that are part of the filming, and shall apply those rules and guidelines equally regardless of the subject matter of the filming and/or the content of the speech therein.
- (5) In the event that permission to perform an element is denied, the NGFO will process the remainder of the permit and grant all other aspects of the filming for which the requirements have been met.
- (6) The NGFO may deny an application only if the director reasonably determines that one or more of the below-listed conditions exists. Prior to denial, the NGFO shall make reasonable efforts to consult with the producer in an attempt to resolve issues of concern and/or find alternative ways to accommodate the producer's filming needs, as described in subsections VII (7), (8), (9) and (10) below.
 - a. The filming poses an unreasonable risk of personal injury or property damage to people or property not associated with the filming;
 - b. The filming poses an unreasonable risk of damage to public property that could not be quickly and/or fully remediated;
 - c. The date and time requested for a particular filming location conflicts with previously-issued permits or permissions for filming, outdoor events, or other activities;
 - d. Use of the filming location, or use of the location during the date or time requested, would unreasonably interfere with the operation of city functions;
 - e. Use of the filming location or the proposed activity at the location would violate a law, ordinance, statute or regulation, regardless of whether the illegal activity is part of the message or content of the filming. A permit shall not be denied based upon simulation of an illegal activity where the actual illegal activity is not being performed;
 - f. The producer owes an outstanding debt to the city;
 - g. The producer previously caused significant damage to public property and failed to adequately repair the damage or pay in full within 30 days the city's invoice for damage repair and restoration services;
 - h. The producer previously violated this entertainment filming ordinance , including without limitation by violating a material condition and/or restriction of a permit;
 - i. The producer's prior entertainment industry work in the city violated a city ordinance or other applicable law; and
 - j. The applicant made a material misrepresentation or gave incorrect material information on the application.
- (7) Prior to denying an application, if the NGFO determines that the requested filming includes one or more of the conditions described in subsections VII (6) above, the NGFO shall employ reasonable efforts to identify alternative filming locations, times and/or dates that eliminate the unacceptable condition(s) and that are mutually acceptable to

City of Dahlonega Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

the producer and the city. The producer shall modify the application to incorporate any agreed-upon alternatives.

- (8) Prior to denying an application, if the NGFO determines that the requested filming or related activity creates a violation as described in subsection VII (6) above, the NGFO shall allow the producer to revise the application so that the filming activities comply with applicable law.
- (9) Prior to denying an application pursuant to subsections VII (6) above, the NGFO shall notify the producer of the potential denial and allow her/him to remedy the conditions described in those subsections. The NGFO shall process the application after such repair, restoration or payment is complete, and may require the producer to obtain a refundable sanitation bond for the filming permit in an amount equivalent to the cost of the repair, restoration or debt.
- (10) Prior to denying an application pursuant to subsections VII (7), (8), (9) and/or (10) above, the NGFO shall provide the applicant an opportunity to present documents or other evidence that refutes the director's finding of previous permit violations, of previous violations of the law, or of misrepresentation or misinformation on the application, as applicable.
- (11) Where the director has complied with subsections VII (7), (8), (9) and/or (10) above and reasonably determines that one or more of the conditions set forth in subsection VII (6) continues to exist and that the application should therefore be denied, the director shall issue a written communication to the applicant that includes a detailed explanation for the denial. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude the director from also notifying the applicant orally.
- (12) If the director denies an application, the applicant shall have the right to appeal the decision to the City Manager or her/his designee, provided that a written request for such appeal is made to the City Manager within three business days after the applicant's receipt of the director's determination. The person considering the appeal must be impartial, and must have had no involvement in the director's decision. The appeal shall be heard or considered within three business days after the city receives the applicant's request, and shall be decided de novo. The person considering the appeal shall evaluate the application and the director's decision in accordance with the criteria of this Ordinance.
- (13) The person considering the appeal may issue her/his decision verbally, and shall issue a written decision within three business days of receiving written evidence from the applicant and/or meeting with the applicant, whichever is later. The written decision shall be the final decision of the city regarding the application. The applicant or producer may appeal the decision by writ of certiorari to the Superior Court of Lumpkin County pursuant to the procedures set forth by Georgia law.

VIII. Modification, suspension or cancellation of a permit.

- (1) After receiving a permit, the producer may request a material modification of the permit at any time by submitting to the NGFO a change request and change fee as set

City of Dahlonega Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

forth in this code. The NGFO's ability to process the change request shall be determined pursuant to the provisions established for processing applications as set forth in subsections VII (2) and (3) above. The director's decision of whether to grant or deny the modification request shall be determined as set forth above. Submission of a change request will not impact the validity of the permit already issued, except upon written request of the producer.

- (2) Where a producer has obtained a permit and abides by the material requirements thereof, the permit shall prevent the city's stoppage of activities that are authorized by the permit, except as otherwise set forth in subsection VIII (3) below or as a result of applicable law.
- (3) In the event that the Lumpkin County Sheriff's Office, Lumpkin County Fire Department and/or other City department of purview identifies a substantial public health or safety risk arising from or caused by the filming, and the producer is in material compliance with the permit, the following shall occur:
 - a. Where the substantial risk is identified prior to the commencement of the filming, the director and applicable department of purview shall employ reasonable efforts to consult with the producer and identify permit changes that are mutually acceptable to the producer and the city, and that remedy the health/safety issue(s). Where such efforts are unsuccessful, the director shall modify the permit in a manner that minimizes disruption of the filming as determined at the director's reasonable discretion, and that eliminates the substantial risk as reasonably determined by the department of purview.
 - b. Where the substantial risk is not imminent and is identified after the commencement of the filming, the director and applicable department of purview shall employ reasonable efforts to consult with the producer and identify permit changes that are mutually acceptable to the producer and the city, and that remedy the health/safety issue(s). Where such efforts are unsuccessful, the director shall modify the permit in a manner that minimizes disruption of the filming as determined at the director's reasonable discretion, and that eliminates the substantial risk as reasonably determined by the department of purview.
 - c. Where the substantial risk is imminent as reasonably determined by the department of purview and is identified after the commencement of filming, said department may place a stop work order on the filming if it finds that the order will likely alleviate the substantial risk. The stop work order may be issued without advance notice where the department of purview deems that a delay of the order will jeopardize public health and safety, and shall be lifted as quickly as possible after the risk is eliminated. The department of purview shall notify the director of the stop work order within two hours of its issuance. The director and applicable department of purview shall employ reasonable efforts to consult with the producer and identify permit changes that are mutually acceptable to the producer and the city, that will minimize the length and impact of the stop

City of Dahlonaga Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

work order as decided by the producer, and that remedy the health/safety issue(s) as determined by the department of purview.

- d. Changes made to the permit pursuant to this subsection VIII (3) shall not require payment of a change fee.
- (4) Where the director, or a department of purview in consultation with the director, determines that the producer is violating material term(s) of the permit, the director shall decide the appropriate remedial actions after consulting with the department of purview and the producer. If the director and/or department of purview finds that a substantial public health or safety risk is arising from or caused by the material violation, the department of purview in consultation with the director may place an immediate stop work order on the filming without prior notice to the producer, and consultation with the producer shall occur after the work stoppage. The consultation between the director, department of purview and producer shall evaluate the nature and severity of the violation, whether the violation was intentional, whether permit modifications should be made, whether the stop work order should be lifted (where applicable), and what other actions should be taken (if any). Where the violation creates a substantial public health and/or safety risk, the remedial actions decided by the director will not be deemed final until the department of purview reviews the remedial actions and confirms that they will eliminate the health and safety risks.

IX. Responsibilities of a producer once a permit is obtained.

- (1) A producer or producer's designee must have the permit on site at the time and location of the filming, and must also have on site any other permits required for that location by the NGFO or any other governmental agency.
- (2) A producer must confine filming to the locations, times, guidelines and conditions specified in the permit and must abide by all other material terms of the permit.
- (3) Permits are not transferable.
- (4) A producer must clean and repair the filming location, and restore it to the condition it was in immediately prior to the filming. The NGFO will inspect the filming location after the filming is completed to ascertain whether this requirement has been met. Where a producer fails to fulfill this requirement, the director will bill the producer for the cleaning, repair and/or restoration costs borne by the city, and the producer must pay the invoice in full within 30 days of receipt.
- (5) Permits shall require the producer to notify the NGFO within one hour or sooner of learning of any emergency event regarding or arising from the filming that involves the media, the police or fire departments or emergency medical services.
- (6) A producer is responsible for: (a) knowing and complying with all city ordinances and other laws applicable to the filming and to the other activities arising from the producer's permit; and (b) requiring and using commercially reasonable efforts to enforce the requirement that any person working for or at the direction of the producer (including without limitation contractors) complies with all city ordinances and other laws applicable to the filming and to the other activities arising from the permit.

City of Dahlonega Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

Applicable city ordinances include without limitation the City of Dahlonega Noise Ordinance.

- (7) The requirements of number (6) above shall include without limitation that the producer is responsible for obtaining any and all permissions, licenses or other required authorizations for use of intellectual property, including intellectual property which is on public property but is not owned by the city.
- (8) Permits must prohibit a producer from acting as a representative or agent of the city, and from indicating city endorsement of the filming, except as otherwise agreed to in writing by the director. This provision shall not prohibit the producer's use of the city logo in the filming credits.
- (9) The NGFO shall require that written notification be given to residents and businesses within a three-block radius of a location for which a filming permit has been issued. The applicant must directly contact effected business and property owners and obtain their permission to use surrounding property. The notification must state that a filming permit has been issued, and must include the date(s), time(s), location(s) and activities that are authorized by the permit. Compensation may be necessary if business and home environments are disrupted. Applicants are required to obtain the property owner's permission, consent and/or lease for use of property not owned or controlled by the City.
- (10) Emergency vehicle access shall be maintained at all times.

X. Other permit requirements.

After a permit has been approved by the director, it will be issued once the following have occurred:

- (1) The applicant indemnifies the city and its officials and employees from all claims, losses and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, that may arise from the permit and any of the activities performed pursuant to the permit by, on behalf of, or at the direction of the producer, except to the extent that those claims, losses and/or expenses are caused by the negligence or intentional misconduct of the city, its officials and/or employees;
- (2) The applicant agrees to comply with all applicable environmental laws, including an agreement not to allow legally-prohibited contaminants from entering the sewage and stormwater drainage systems serving the area where the filming will occur and hereby indemnifies the city and its officials and employees from all claims, losses, fines, clean-up costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs, that may arise as a result of environmental breaches.; and
- (3) The applicant pays the permit fee and any other applicable fees set forth in Section XI below.

XI. Fee schedule.

The NGFO shall collect all applicable fees arising pursuant to this article. These fees are set forth below in this section, and in other sections of the Code pertaining to the cost of services or

City of Dahlonaga Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

goods provided by other city departments. Where the NGFO receives funds that are attributable to services performed by another city department, such funds shall be paid to the department providing those services where prescribed by the Code.

- (1) Nonrefundable application fee. A filming permit application must be accompanied by a nonrefundable application fee in the amount set forth below. A filming permit application shall not be deemed complete until the application fee is received by the NGFO.
 - a. \$100.00
- (2) Filming permit fee. A filming permit authorizes all filming for a particular filming project during a calendar month, regardless of the number of filming locations. A filming permit is valid through the last day of the calendar month and may be renewed for additional calendar months.
 - a. Standard Permit Fee. The following fees apply when the completed filming permit application is submitted to the NGFO more than three business days prior to the effective date of the permit:
 - i. \$300.00 for original filming permit
 - ii. \$200.00 for each renewal filming permit
 - b. Rush permit fee. Where a completed filming permit application is submitted to the NGFO three or fewer business days prior to the effective date of the permit, the producer must pay the standard permit fee (\$300) plus the rush fee (\$300). Additionally, where a producer submits an application more than three business days prior to the effective date of the permit, the producer voluntarily may pay the standard permit fee plus the rush fee in order to have the application processed within three or fewer business days.
 - i. \$600.00
 - c. Material changes to filming permit.
 - i. There is no charge for modifying a filming permit where the director reasonably determines that the modification is not material. For purposes of this article, "material" means that processing the requested change will require an expenditure of city staff time or services that is more than de minimus.
 - ii. There is no charge for a material change to a filming permit where a completed change request is submitted to the NGFO more than three business days prior to the effective date of the permit. Where a material change is requested after the permit has taken effect, there will be no charge if the completed change request is submitted to the NGFO more than three business days prior to the implementation of the requested change.
 - iii. Where a change request for a material change is submitted to the NGFO three or fewer business days prior to the effective date of the permit or the implementation date of the change as described in Section XI (2) c (ii) above, the producer must pay the rush change fee set forth below in this

City of Dahlonaga Film Ordinance Ordinance 2016 - 1

subsection. Additionally, where a producer submits a change request more than three business days prior to the implementation of the requested change, the producer voluntarily may pay the rush fee in order to have the change request processed within three or fewer business days:

1. \$300.00

d. Cancellation fee.

- i. Except as set forth in subsections XI (2) d (ii) and (2) d (iii) below, a filming permit fee is nonrefundable.
- ii. Where the producer submits a change request to the NGFO and the change results in cancellation of a filming permit for a particular calendar month, the producer may utilize the filming permit fee for the cancelled month to purchase a new filming permit for the same project for a different calendar month. Regardless of whether a new filming permit fee is owed, the NGFO shall determine whether a rush fee is applicable based upon the timing of the change request and the standards set forth in subsection above.
- iii. A filming permit fee is refundable if cancellation is required because of extraordinary circumstances for which the producer is not responsible and which are not within the producer's control. Inclement weather, except for declared states of emergency, and common illness shall not be deemed extraordinary circumstances.

(3) On-site services fee. An on-site services fee is assessed for each public property location where filming occurs, as authorized by the filming permit, for each day that filming occurs at that site. Where a producer films at more than three locations in a day for the same filming project, s/he shall be charged an on-site services fee only for the first three locations.

- a. Standard on-site services fee. The following on-site services fee applies when the completed filming application or change request seeking authorization to film at the site is submitted to the NGFO more than three business days prior to the day of filming:
 - i. \$100.00 per location per day, not to exceed \$300.00 per day
 - ii. \$10.00 closure fee per on-street parking space per day
 - iii. \$10.00 closure fee per municipal parking lot spaces per day
- b. Rush on-site service fee. When a completed filming application or change request seeking authorization to film at the site is submitted to the NGFO three or fewer business days prior to the requested day of filming, the producer must pay the standard on-site services fee plus the rush fee set forth below in this subsection. There is no daily maximum regarding this rush fee.
 - i. \$300.00
- c. Cancellation fee.

**City of Dahlonega Film Ordinance
Ordinance 2016 - 1**

- i. Except as set forth in subsections XI (3) c (ii) and (3) c (iii) below, an on-site services fee is nonrefundable.
 - ii. Where the producer submits a change request to the NGFO that results in cancellation of requested on-site services for a particular day, the producer may utilize the on-site services fee for the cancelled day to pay for on-site services for the same project for a day that is within three calendar days of the cancelled day. If the change request is submitted three or fewer business days prior to the filming day requested in the original application or the filming day requested in the change request, whichever is earlier, a rush on-site service fee shall be owed.
 - iii. An on-site services fee is refundable if cancellation is required because of extraordinary circumstances for which the producer is not responsible and which are not within the producer's control. Inclement weather, except for declared states of emergency, and common illness shall not be deemed extraordinary circumstances.
- (4) Scholarship program. The NGFO may establish a scholarship program that encourages development of local talent in the filming industry. If and when established, this program will be operated by the NGFO. The NGFO is authorized to award scholarships that waive some or all of the filming and on-site services fees associated with a filming project, contingent upon the following:
- a. The producer is a student;
 - b. The producer has not previously performed a filming project for commercial release;
 - c. The producer resides within the corporate limits of the City of Dahlonega;
 - d. The filming is performed entirely in Lumpkin County with at least 50 percent of the filming occurring within the corporate limits of the City of Dahlonega;
 - e. The filming project budget is less than \$200,000.00; and
 - f. At least 50 percent of the total filming project crew are City of Dahlonega residents.

Summary of Fee Schedule

Nonrefundable application fee	\$100
Filming Permit fee (more than 3 days prior to filming)	\$300
Filming Permit Fee (three or fewer business days prior to filming or requested "Rush")	\$300 (+ standard fee)
Renewal fee	\$200
Material changes (more than 3 days prior to filming)	No Fee
Material change (three or fewer business days prior to filming)	\$300
Standard on site services	\$100-\$300
Rush on site services (three or fewer business days prior to filming)	\$300
Public parking space	\$10 per day per space
Street closure inconvenience fee (no less than 5 days prior to filming)	\$500

**City of Dahlonega Film Ordinance
Ordinance 2016 - 1**

XII. Traffic control plan and street closures.

Entertainment industry work performed at certain locations or when rerouting or closures are requested will require a traffic control plan.

- (1) A full street closure will not be permitted unless the application or change request is submitted at least five business days prior to the closure. Rush fees may not be utilized for full street closure requests. In the event of street closures, the applicant will be subject to a \$500 inconvenience fee.
- (2) If streets are to be blocked or traffic disrupted in any manner, off duty deputies must be scheduled through the Lumpkin County Sherriff's Office at 706-482-2610.
- (3) The applicant should be prepared to submit the traffic control plan to the Lumpkin County Sheriff's Office and the City of Dahlonega' Engineer for approval of filming in certain locations that require rerouting of traffic and/or road closures. The applicant must adjust the plan as needed to meet the requirements of the two reviewing departments.
- (4) Applicants shall furnish and install advance warning signs as requested by the NGFO and in conformance with Georgia Department of Transportation. All appropriate safety precautions must be taken.

XIII. Location credit.

The North Georgia Film Office requests acknowledgement in location credits as *North Georgia Film*, where applicable.

The effective date of this Ordinance shall be upon approval by the City Council of the City of Dahlonega.

ADOPTED and ORDAINED THIS _____ day of _____, 20__.

By: _____
Gary McCullough, Mayor

Attest: _____
Kimberly A. Smith, City Clerk